

BRADLEY'S GUN

By time I was 10
I loved guns &
had several cast
iron cap guns, a
Red Ryder BB gun
& a .30-06 training
rifle. But my
favorite was a
stubby revolver a
friend's dad had
carved out of a
thick piece of pine bark.
Fragile & unorthodox
as it was, it
stimulated my
imagination &
I tried to trade
many a loved
toy to own it.

SEPARATION

He loaded his blue
38 with snap-caps
& handed it to
his wife. She dry
fired it many
times, both single
& double action.
Then he reloaded
the revolver with
live rounds & told
her to use it
if she had to.
She wouldn't use
it he knew, but
he felt less
guilty leaving her
with a choice.